

Docket #S
Rm 202



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

The Honorable Paul D. Coverdell
United States Senator
100 Colony Square, Suite 300
1175 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30361

AUG 19 1997

RECEIVED

AUG 21 1997

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Coverdell:

Thank you for your letter of August 6, 1997, on behalf of your constituent Gary A. Brown, Sr., Fire Chief of the City of Toccoa, Georgia. Chief Brown expresses concern that the Commission's proposal in the proceeding to reallocate television channels 60-69 (ET Docket No. 97-157) may limit the abilities of local governments to improve public safety radio systems. In particular, Chief Brown states that the City of Toccoa's public safety radio system needs modernization and will require additional radio frequencies in the near future. His understanding is that the Commission proposal may not make these frequencies available until the year 2007.

In a Notice of Proposed Rule Making ("Notice") released July 10, 1997, the Commission proposed to reallocate and to designate for public safety use four of the TV channels (specifically, channels 63, 64, 68, and 69), which in total comprise 24 megahertz of additional public safety spectrum. Comments must be filed on or before September 15, 1997, and reply comments must be filed on or before October 14, 1997. We are enclosing a copy of the Notice and invite Chief Brown to submit comments and reply comments so that his views may be considered in the Commission's final decision on the allocation.

We anticipate that the Commission will adopt a Report and Order deciding upon the appropriate allocation by the end of the year, as required by the recently enacted Balanced Budget Act of 1997 ("Act"). The Act also requires that the licensing of the new public safety spectrum begin no later than September 30, 1998. We also anticipate that the Commission will soon issue a Notice of Proposed Rule Making to determine appropriate service and licensing rules.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Smith
Chief
Office of Engineering and Technology

Enclosure

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PAUL D. COVERDELL
GEORGIA

CONFERENCE SECRETARY

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1004

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August 6, 1997

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Ms. Judith Harris
Director, Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Chief Gary A. Brown, Sr.

Dear Ms. Harris:

Please find enclosed correspondence I received from the above-referenced constituent. I would appreciate your review of this information in accordance with established policies and procedures. Upon completion of your review, please forward clarification of your findings to the address below.

In the event my office may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Michael Nixon at (404) 347-2202. Thank you for your efforts in this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Paul D. Coverdell
United States Senator

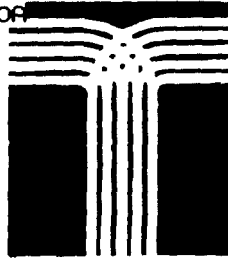
Enclosure(s)

Please Respond To:
100 Colony Square, Suite 300
1175 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30361
ATTN: Michael Nixon

JUL 29 1997 11:37AM
Fire Department
Municipal Building
P.O. Box 579
203 N. Alexander Street
Toccoa, Georgia 30577
(706) 886-8656

CITY OF TOCCOA

NO. 538 P. 2



City of Toccoa

July 29, 1997

The Honorable Paul Coverdell
United States Senate
200 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Coverdell:

The FCC has issued a proposed rule (ET Docket 97-157) that would appear to limit the abilities of local government to improve public safety radio systems. This may limit the ability of the City of Toccoa to improve its radio capabilities to meet future growth.

While the FCC has reserved radio frequencies for public safety needs, it is my understanding that this proposed rule will make it difficult for local governments to secure these frequencies before the year 2007. The City of Toccoa is operating on a radio system that needs modernization and will require additional radio frequencies in the near future.

Would you please investigate this matter and take whatever steps you feel appropriate to assure the reasonable access of local governments to public safety radio frequencies.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary A. Brown, Sr.", written over a horizontal line.

Gary A. Brown, Sr.
Fire Chief

Copy by fax to (202)228-3643

cc: Bill Lewis, City Manager

JUL 29.1997 11:37AM

CITY OF TOCCOA

NO.538

P.1

CITY OF TOCCOA 203 North Alexander St P.O. Box 579 TOCCOA, GA 30577
(706) 886-8451 FAX (706) 886-7766

FROM: Fire Chief, Caryl Brown Sr. DATE: 7-29-97
City of Toconga Fire Dept TIME: 10:33

----- AUG 02 1997 -----

TO: The Honorable Paul Coverdell

FIRM: United States Senate

MESSAGE TO RECIPIENT: Re: (J.C.C. ETDocket 97-157)

TELEPHONE NO. (706) 886-8656

RECEIVER'S FAX NO. (202) - 228 - 3643

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 2

PRIORITY: URGENT / ROUTINE

If you do not receive all of the pages indicated above, please call

Kathy Taylor at (706) 886-8451 ext# 240

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